

# CITY OF FRANKFORT

## Sewer Department

### Quarterly Newsletter

## NEW SEWER LATERAL POLICY

Based upon a change in Department policy that will take effect on *March 1, 2004* occupants will no longer be responsible for repairing or replacing laterals within the public right-of-way or public easements.

Under the new policy, the lateral servicing a typical building will be identified as two separate discrete units - the "Private Sewer Lateral" and the "Public Sewer Lateral". The Private Sewer Lateral is defined as that portion of the sewer lateral that lies between the building and the public right-of-way or public easement. With the new policy, it is still the occupant's responsibility to repair or replace this portion of the lateral in the event of a structural problem. The Public Sewer Lateral is defined as that portion of the sewer lateral that lies between the public right-of-way or public easement and the main sewer line. Upon implementation of the new policy, it will be the responsibility of the Frankfort Sewer Department to repair or replace this portion of the lateral should a structural problem be identified.

It is important to note that while the Frankfort Sewer Department is accepting responsibility for repair and replacement of the Public Sewer Lateral due to structural problems, the Department is not responsible for blockages in any portion of the lateral. In other words, if you have a backup in your building due to a blockage in the lateral – anywhere between the building and the sewer main – it is the occupant's responsibility to have the blockage removed.

If you have a backup in your building due to a blockage in a lateral, the occupant should arrange to have the blockage removed. The occupants can do this themselves or they can call a plumber. If the occupant or their plumber finds evidence of pipe debris, mud, or heavy roots during clearing of the private sewer lateral, the occupant should arrange with their plumber to have that portion of the lateral repaired or replaced. If the occupant or their plumber finds evidence of pipe debris, mud, or heavy roots during clearing of the public sewer lateral, the occupant or their plumber should call the Frankfort Sewer Department to schedule a video inspection of the lateral. The Department will schedule the video inspection and attempt to determine the cause of the problem. Once the problem is identified, the occupant will be informed of the actions proposed by the Department. Each project will be prioritized with the most severe problems scheduled first. The most severe problems are those in buildings where flow is totally stopped.

If the public sewer lateral needs to be repaired or replaced, the Frankfort Sewer Department will make the appropriate repairs. At the time repairs are made, a clean-out will be installed at the right-of-way or easement line.

### How To Reach Us—

**Phone: (502) 875-2448**

**Fax: (502) 223-7857**

- William R. Scalf, Jr., P.E., Director
- Robert Barker, Deputy for Collection System Operation & Expansion
- Robert Oerther, Deputy Director of Operations
- Robert Peterson, Staff Engineer
- Carol Atha, Administrative Aide

**Need a guest speaker? Got any ideas on how to improve our services? Give us a call.**



The clean-out will be installed in a vault and will have a cover very similar to your water meter. The clean-out is a location where the lateral can be accessed in the future for cleaning.

In order to pay for the cost of this new service, a flat fee of \$4 per month is being enacted and will be assessed on all accounts. This fee will be included on your water bill, just like your current sewer fee. The fee will be a separate line item, and the fee will not be used for any sewer work other than laterals.

If you have any questions, want additional information, or want a copy of the policy, please call the Frankfort Sewer Department at 875-2448.

***Expanding our knowledge and expertise to serve our community better . . .***

- October 18-21 (Daniel Fey) Commonwealth of KY Wastewater Treatment Class II training and testing for Operator II classification in Lexington, Kentucky.
- November 5 (Bill Scalf) KSPE and KY Division of Water: Funding for Stormwater Programs in Lexington, Kentucky.
- November 7 (Greg Thurman, Willett Lee, Jeff Hamblen Glen Sanford, and Eugene Moore) Control Technologies presented Disinfection Practices & System Design in Cynthiana, Kentucky. Each earned 4.0 CEU.
- December 11 (Bill Scalf, Robert Barker, and Bob Peterson) Seminar for Engineers—Wastewater Facility Plans and Construction Approvals in Lexington, Kentucky.

***Welcome on Board . . .***

*Robert Peterson* joined our department as Staff Engineer in November, 2003. He has Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Kentucky and is a registered Professional Engineer with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Bob resides in Lexington.

***Sewer Trivia***

- Chicago is credited with having the first comprehensive sewer project in the country which was designed by E.S. Chesbrough in 1885.
- In 1857, Engineer Julius W. Adams provided the framework upon which modern sewers are based. He was commissioned to sewer the city of Brooklyn which then covered 20 square miles. Adams developed guidelines and designs that made modern sanitary engineering possible. More importantly, he published the results. By the end of the century, "how to" textbooks would be available to cities across the country.

**Focus on Carol Atha  
Administrative Aide**



Carol began her employment with the City in September, 1997 as an administrative specialist in the City Manager's office. She was promoted to Administrative Aide in the Sewer Department in July, 2000.

She is responsible for processing department requisitions, purchase orders, expenditures, ordering office supplies, sewer tap deposits and tracking the department budget. Carol processes payroll and inventory records. She also prepares and edits the department newsletter. Carol supervises administrative support staff and attends all management meetings as well as special sewer meetings where she records and prepares minutes as necessary.

She and her husband, Mike, live on a farm in Franklin County and raise Angus cattle. They have two daughters—Angela and Rebecca. In her spare time, Carol likes to read and work in the garden.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED